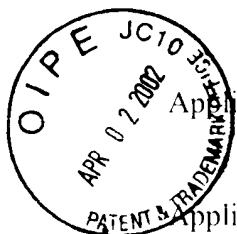


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicants: Aldo M. Pitt, Sara D. Gutierrez, Thomas G. Zermani, Jeffrey Busnach,  
Joseph J. Raneri and James C. Groves

Application No. 09/637,403 Group Art Unit: 1724

Filed: August 11, 2000 Examiner: Ivars C. Cintins

For: Fluid Filtering Device and Method for Filtering Fluid

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TC 1700

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202

on March 28, 2002  
Date

*Marianne Lentini*  
Signature

MARIANNE LENTINI

Typed or printed name of person signing certificate

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Second Preliminary Amendment for filing in the above-identified application.

[ ] Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a Small Entity Statement previously submitted.

[ ] A Small Entity Statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

| (COL. 1)                 | (COL. 2)                                  | (COL. 3) | (COL. 2)                              | (COL. 3)         |
|--------------------------|---|----------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
|                          | CLAIMS<br>REMAINING<br>AFTER<br>AMENDMENT |          | HIGHEST NO.<br>PREVIOUSLY<br>PAID FOR | PRESENT<br>EXTRA |
| TOTAL                    | 36  | MINUS    | * 49                                  | 0                |
| INDEP                    | 2   | MINUS    | ** 10                                 | 0                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM |          |                                       |                  |

\* not fewer than 20  
\*\* not fewer than 3

| SMALL ENTITY |       |               |
|--------------|-------|---------------|
|              | RATE  | ADDIT.<br>FEE |
| X            | \$ 9  | \$            |
| X            | \$42  | \$            |
| +            | \$140 | \$            |

TOTAL = \$ 0

| OTHER THAN<br>SMALL ENTITY |       |               |
|----------------------------|-------|---------------|
|                            | RATE  | ADDIT.<br>FEE |
| X                          | \$18  | \$            |
| X                          | \$84  | \$            |
| +                          | \$280 | \$            |

TOTAL = \$ 0

Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0380 for the following fees:

|                          |  |    |          |
|--------------------------|--|----|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Petition for [ ] month Extension of Time | \$ | _____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendment Fee                            | \$ | _____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other Fees:                              |    |          |
|                          | _____                                    | \$ | _____    |
|                          | _____                                    | \$ | _____    |
|                          | TOTAL:                                   | \$ | <u>0</u> |

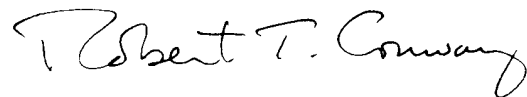
A check is enclosed in payment of the following fees:

|                          |  |    |          |
|--------------------------|--|----|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Petition for [ ] month Extension of Time | \$ | _____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendment Fee                            | \$ | _____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other Fees:                              |    |          |
|                          | _____                                    | \$ | _____    |
|                          | _____                                    | \$ | _____    |
|                          | TOTAL:                                   | \$ | <u>0</u> |

☒ A general authorization is hereby granted to charge Deposit Account No. 08-0380 for any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 in order to maintain pendency of this application. A copy of this authorization is enclosed for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH &  
REYNOLDS, P.C.



Robert T. Conway  
Registration No. 33,859  
Telephone (978) 341-0036  
Facsimile (978) 341-0136

Dated: March 28, 2002  
Concord, Massachusetts 01742-9133



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SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

This Second Preliminary Amendment is submitted after a Reply to Restriction Requirement and Preliminary Amendment was mailed to the Patent Office on March 18, 2002.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please add the following new claims:

72. (New) The device of Claim 41 wherein the angling mechanism has an angle between 2° and 30°.
73. (New) The device of Claim 41 wherein the plurality of wells includes at least two wells.